Bible and Daily Living

Annointing first king

By WILLIAM L. TRIMYER
ANNOINTING ISRAEL'S FIRST KING
Lesson for June 3, 1984
Bible Study Passages: I Samuel 8:4-10, 19-22

INTRODUCTION

Can you imagine living in a country without government ruling? Can you conceive of what it would be like to live dependently upon God's rule? When the Israelites settled in their new land they were to have no government but God. Rather than living under a democracy, they were to live under a theocracy: that is, God's rule.

In the early beginnings of Israel's history the people were very dependent upon God for leadership. God was also dependent upon certain leaders with charisma to lead his people through treacherous times. People like Moses, Joshua and Samuel were chosen by God to carry out his purposes.

God does not choose superhumans to do his bidding. There are no perfect humans, for God uses the imperfect to carry out his divine intentions. He always has and He always will.

The Israelites complained that they wanted a king like other countries enjoyed, so God said yes to a king. Such a decision by the people would not be without problems, as we will see in our 13th week study in the Old Testament.

REQUEST FOR A KING [I Samuel 4:4-10]

The request for a king happened partially because of conformity and partially because Samuel's two sons looked to be poor pickings for future judges over Israel. The people of Israel believed that the presence of a king would likewise deter enemy harrassment.

Samuel experienced what a number of people experience in our society. He was being asked to step aside in order for a younger man to assume leadership. He was naturally hurt over the people's seeming insensitivity towards him. God quickly reminded Samuel that the people were rejecting Him rather than Samuel.

Step by step the people of Israel had moved farther and farther away from their dependence upon God. Despite the overwhelming evidence of God's past leadership, the people still insisted upon having a king. Like a good parent, God allowed Israel to "test the waters" of their decision. God does not take away our right to free choice. Sometimes we come home limping when we've made a choice that denies our dependence upon God.

THE PEOPLE'S REFUSAL TO HEAR [I Samuel 8:19-22]

Nothing is more stubborn than a stubborn mule, except for stubborn people! When Samuel described the hazards of having a king, the people refused to listen. There is a saying that goes, "All that glitters is not gold." In other words, things are not always as they appear. Samuel tried to convince the people that having a king other than God could be hazardous to the health of their nation. The good news is that God kept on loving and caring for Israel even when she turned and went her own way. God loves us even when we make choices that go against the grain of his purpose for our lives.

You will recall from your knowledge of biblical history that Saul was the first king to be annointed in Israel. Early on Saul appeared as a good choice for a king, and he was. But we also know that later on Saul revealed his other side, namely, that he was capable of instability and jealous rage. There are no perfect political candidates, despite the campaign ads. When we look to human leadership we run the risk that things may go either way. The leaders who depend totally upon their own powers ignore the help God can give. Consider the following questions:

1. Does God endorse any particular form of government?
2. What would you say makes a good leader?
3. Freedom of choice under God. What does this statement mean to you?

Dr. Trimyer is Chaplain at Burnham Hospital in Champaign, Illinois (WLYP).

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Pre-registration day set

The Appomattox Seventh-Day Adventist Church School will have a pre-registration day on May 31, 1984.

This is an opportunity for members of the community regardless of church affiliation, to place their children where there is a religious atmosphere and prayer and Bible study is part of the educational process.

There are some openings still left to enroll your child in grades 1 - 8. Visit the school at Court and Moses Streets in the west classroom of the church between 8:30 a.m. and 4 p.m. and express your concerns with the principal, Leon E. Miles.

Instructors are certified and hold professional B.A. and M.A. degrees.

For further information call 248-6909.

Jordan Baptist Church news

The Adult Choir will celebrate their anniversary at Jordan Baptist Church this Sunday (June 3). The Heavenly Messengers of Lynchburg will be their special guests. Plan now to attend the program, which starts at 3 p.m.

The Young Adult Choir will practice Tuesday (June 5) at 7 p.m. at Jordan Baptist Church.

The Senior Choir will practice Thursday, June 7 at 7:30 p.m. at the church.

The regular preaching service will be held June 10 at 5:30 p.m.

Mt. Shiloh news notes

Guest speaker, the Rev. Wayne Akins delivered a very inspiring message Sunday morning in the absence of our pastor at Mt. Shiloh Baptist Church. Services were enjoyed by all attending.

The church's usher board will celebrate its 41st anniversary Sunday, June 3 at 3 p.m. Please come out and support your usher board. All ushers are asked to meet Wednesday, May 30 at 6:30 p.m., at the church.

The church is asking all men to come out Saturday, June 2, at 3:30 p.m. to help with the beautification of the church lawn.

The regular board meeting will be held Saturday, June 2 at 7 p.m.

Zion Church news notes

The Young Adult Choir of Zion Baptist Church celebrated their anniversary Sunday. Rita Marshall was mistress of ceremonies.

Pastors Lewis and Flood spoke at the event, and several groups and individuals sang.

Regular preaching services will be offered at Zion Baptist Church this Sunday at 11 a.m. The public is invited to attend.

The senior usher's board met Sunday at 11 a.m.

The minister's conference will be held at Zion Baptist Sunday at 6 p.m. The public is invited.

Deacon Robert Jennings is in the hospital in Lynchburg. We wish him a speedy recovery.

We are praying for the sick and the shut-in everywhere.

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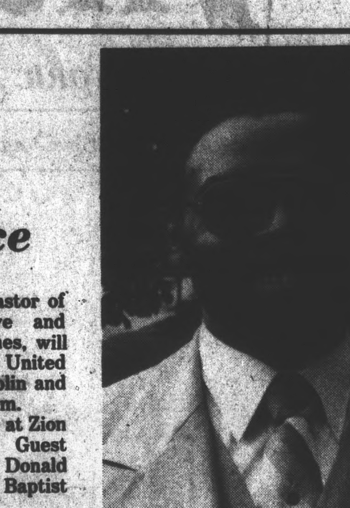

Rev. Wyatt Venable

The Rev. Wyatt Venable, pastor of New Store, Chestnut Grove and Hickory Grove Baptist Churches, will be installed as president of the United Ministerial Conference of Pamplin and vicinity Saturday, June 2 at 6 p.m.

The ceremony will take place at Zion Baptist Church in Pamplin. Guest speaker will be the Rev. Donald Johnson, pastor of Court Street Baptist Church in Lynchburg.

Pastor Johnson will be accompanied by the Community Gospel Chorus of Peaceful Grove Baptist Church in Concord.

Calenday of Events

Yard sale set

SATURDAY, June 2

The UMW (United Methodist Women) of the Pamplin United Methodist Church will be holding a bake sale and yard sale on June 2 at the end of Main Street in Wilsie Davis' yard from 10:00 a.m. til ? So come see us and buy some baked goods and maybe find a treasure.

Anniversary slated

SUNDAY, JUNE 3

The Men's Club at Gravel Hill Baptist Church will celebrate their seventh anniversary at 4 p.m.

Concert slated

SUNDAY, JUNE 3

The Faithful Five Gospel Singers will be in concert at the Springfield Baptist Church Sunday, June 3, at 3 p.m. Everyone is cordially invited.

Special program set

SUNDAY, JUNE 3

There will be a special program at Canaan Baptist Church Sunday, June 3, at 3 p.m. It will consist of a baby contest, various groups have been invited. Everyone is invited to attend.

Galilee Baptist Church news notes

Hide not thy face from me in the day when I am in trouble; incline thine ear unto me: In the day when I call answer me speedily. Psalm 102:2

We wish to thank all members and friends who supported us during our first Spring revival at Galilee. The week of service was very successful. Ministers and choirs from many localities served as our guests during the week. This marks the beginning of Spring Revival season at Galilee.

Regular worship services will be held at Galilee this coming first Sunday in June. Pastor Davis will be in charge of morning worship. the Senior Choir will render the selections.

We ask your cooperation in helping strengthen our church school. The support of many parents of the church is needed. The future church depends on our Sunday School. Please sacrafice and come out.

The church remodeling at Galilee has been completed. Our sanctuary is beautiful and enjoyably for worship.

Members of the Stevens family attended the final rites for Brother Jimmy Gale in Philadelphia this past Saturday.

We are happy to report that Sister Louise Watson is recovering nicely and back at her duties at First Baptist Church. May God continue to lift her up.

Our prayers go out to all the sick, shut-in and bereaved the world over.

Happiness is a roadside flower growing on the highways of usefulness; Plucked it shall wither in thy hand; passed by it is fragrance to thy spirit. Trample the thyme beneath thy feet; be useful, be happy.

Mrs. Bernice Lawing of Galilee attended the Lewis Pankey Day at Springfield Baptist Church this past Sunday.

My dear christian friends, have a pleasant week, pray and be kind as often as you can, because Jesus is truly returning again. Love to all from Galilee.

Death Notices

Mrs. Cleo Banks

Mrs. Cleo Banks, Brooklyn, N.Y., departed this life Wednesday, May 23, 1984 at Brookdale Medical Center. She was the wife of Melvin Banks.

Born in Brooklyn, N.Y., she was the daughter of Cleveland Jones, Brooklyn, and Mrs. Daisy Jones, Appomattox.

In addition to her husband, she is survived by two daughters, Miss Diann Banks and Miss Amy Banks, both of Brooklyn; one brother, Gil Jones of Jacksonville, Fla.; four sisters, Mrs. Julia D. Hawkins, Appomattox, Mrs. Gwendolyn Jones of Brooklyn, N.Y., Mrs. Jaquetta Gilmore, Lynchburg, and Mrs. Jeretha Jones, Richmond; four nephews; three nieces; her grandmother, Mrs. Julia Morgan Ferguson, Appomattox; four aunts; four uncles; two brothers-in-law; one sister-in-law; a devoted friend, Jeff Jeffries of Brooklyn; and a host of other relatives and many friends.

Funeral services were conducted Sunday at 3 p.m. from Canaan Baptist Church in Vera, Appomattox County, with the Rev. Johnny Paige officiating. Interment was in the Ferguson family cemetery.

Community Funeral Home was in charge of arrangements.

Clydie V. Bell

Clydie V. Bell, 93, of Route 4, Appomattox, died at 7:38 p.m. Monday, May 21, 1984, in Lynchburg General Hospital.

Born in Appomattox County, she was a daughter of the late Alvin Augusta Bell and Lelia Wright Bell. She was a retired supervisor for Southern Garment Manufacturing Co. in Culpeper, where she worked for 36 years. She was a member of Trinity United Methodist Church in Concord and a life member of Outreach Group, W.S.C.S., of Trinity United Methodist Church.

She is survived by one sister, Mrs. Mary B. Campbell of Appomattox; two brothers, W.C. Bell of Appomattox and Robert A. Bell of Lynchburg; two sisters-in-law, Mrs. Jean Bell of Baltimore, Md., and Mrs. Louise Bell of Lynchhburg, and a number of nieces and nephews.

A funeral service was conducted at 1 p.m. Thursday at Trinity United Methodist Church, Concord, by the Rev. David Camden. Burial was in the Bell family cemetery.

Whitten Park Avenue Chapel was in charge of arrangements.

Virgie B. Cobb

Virgie Berkley Cobb, 89, died Wednesday in a Lynchburg hospital. She was the widow of John Beach Cobb.

She is survived by three sons, Berlie Cobb, Cullen, George M. Cobb, Charlotte Court House, and David Berkley Cobb of Gaithersburg, Md.; three daughters, Mrs. Ida C. South of St. Petersburg, Fla., Mrs. Beatrice C. Hartig, Farmville, and Mrs. Phyllis C. Atkins, Charlotte Court House; a brother, Tom Berkley, Richmond; a sister, Falome Hannon of Maryland; 18 grandchildren; and 14 great-grandchildren.

Funeral services were held Friday at 1 p.m. in Spring Creek Baptist Church in Darlington Heights with interment in the church cemetery.

Shorter Funeral Home was in charge of arrangements.

Miss Nettie F. Drinkard

Miss Nettie F. Drinkard, 87, of Appomattox, died at her home Sunday, May 27, 1984.

Born in Appomattox County, she was a daughter of the late Charles Milton and Mary Ann Drinkard. She was a member of New Hope Baptist Church in Raleigh, N.C.

She is survived by a number of nieces and nephews.

Funeral services were conducted at 11 a.m. Tuesday from Robinson Funeral Home by Dr. Daniel E. Scott. Burial was in the Drinkard family cemetery in Appomattox County.

Robinson Funeral Home was in charge of arrangements.

Ruth Page Harper

Ruth Page Harper, 59, of Route 1, Brookneal, died in Lynchburg General Hospital May 23, 1984.

She was born in Appomattox County April 26, 1925, a daughter of the late Thomas L. Page and Sallie Doss Page. She was twice married, to the late James J. Spiggle and to William Clayton Harper, who survives. She was a member of Red Oak Baptist Church and a former employee of General Electric Co.

Besides her husband, she is survived by two sons, Ronnie G. Spiggle,

(Continued on page 4)

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